

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY SCA:SCS:WJGREEN:BB

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO MRS R L SEIDL IN CARE OF MRS L WILSON

RQ STADIUM DRIVE GREENBAY WISCONSIN 54304

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FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER RECEIVED FROM THE  
CHAIRMAN-PRESIDENT OF AIR VIETNAM ADDRESSED TO THE  
AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, AMERICAN EMBASSY SAIGON CONCERNING  
YOUR HUSBAND, MR. ROBERT SEIDL:

"EXCELLENCY, WE ARE DEEPLY MOVED TO LEARN THAT MR. EDWARD  
DOLAN, MR. ROBERT SEIDL AND MR. G. MILLER OF AMERICAN  
NATIONALITY, WERE AMONG THE PASSENGERS OF OUR DC4 FLIGHT  
THAT CRASHED NEAR PLEIKU ON MARCH 12, 1975 ON THE WAY  
FROM VIENTIANE TO SAIGON.

AT FIRST REPORT OF THE ACCIDENT WE HAD IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED  
THE RELATIVES OF SAID PASSENGERS AND URGENTLY REQUESTED  
THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THAT OF THE  
VIETNAMESE AIR FORCE AS WELL AS OTHER MILITARY AND CIVILIAN  
CENTRAL AGENCIES FOR AN ALL OUT SEARCH AND RESCUE  
OPERATION.

RECONNAISSANCE PLANES HAD LOCATED THE MISSING PLANE A FEW  
KILOMETERS FROM THANH AN VILLAGE ON MARCH 13. HOWEVER,  
BECAUSE OF THE INTENSE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE OF THE VIET-CONG

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AND THE FIERCE FIGHTING GOING ON IN THE VICINITY OF THE

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SITE, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH IT EITHER BY AIR OR

ROAD.

A TEAM OF EXPERTS AND OFFICIALS FROM THE DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL AVIATION AND AIR VIETNAM HAS BEEN IN PLEIKU READY TO RUSH TO THE SITE OF THE ACCIDENT AS SOON AS THE ARMED FORCES SUCCEED IN CLEARING ACCESS TO THAT AREA.

WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING RELATIVES OF THE VICTIMS AND HAVE GIVEN THEM ALL THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT.

WE WOULD RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU, EXCELLENCY, TO

CONVEY TO THE FAMILIES OF MESSRS EDWARD DOLAN, ROBERT SEIDL, AND G. MILLER OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT WE WILL KEEP ON TRYING EVERY MEANS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST THE VICTIMS AND THEIR ANXIOUS GRIEF-STRICKEN FAMILIES.

NATURALLY WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ANY NEW TURN IN OUR SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION. FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL US AT AIR VIETNAM, 27B PHAN-DING-PHUNG SAIGON (MR. DAN-MEO-TY, PHONE 99.764 OR MR. CHUNG-TOT PHONE 99.910 EXT. 81).

WITH OUR RENEWED SYMPATHY, WE BEG TO REMAIN, EXCELLENCY,

YOURS RESPECTFULLY, NGUYEN TAN TRUNG, CHAIRMAN-PRESIDENT."

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, SAIGON TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW THEIR ASSURANCES TO YOU THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IS BEING DONE, IN CONCERT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM, TO DETERMINE THE FATE OF YOUR BELOVED ONE. IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE CALL UPON US FOR ANY ASSISTANCE YOU FEEL WE CAN GIVE YOU. DIRECTOR, SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. INGERSOLL

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